(ix) Lay byes and

(x) Wayside amenities on high traffic density corridors, etc.

Poor condition of National Highways in Maharashtra

1044. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Wiil the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased *to* state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the condition of National Highways in Maharashtra is not satisfactory; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to bring the all National Highways of Maharashtra to satisfactory conditions and by which date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) National Highways in Maharashtra are maintained in traffickable condition within availability of fund. To improve their riding quality estimates amounting to about Rs. 104 crores have been sanctioned for the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

Creation of unified authority on road safety

1045. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly one lakh people are killed on Indian roads every year and another three lakh are injured or lose their limbs in road accidents;

(b) whether in order to improve the poor condition of the roads in the country, Government propose to set up a unified authority of road safety comprising various States and National Highways Authority of India; and

(c) whether the Ministry's Special Road Safety Cell has so far reviewed the conditions on road safety particularly the stretch between Jaipur and Dausa which is notorious for car crashes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per available information, during the period 1991-1998, on an average about 63,000 persons lost their lives and about 2.95 lakhs were injured, annually due to road accidents.